

Message Text

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12

ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 R

66619

DRAFTED BY ARA/BC/B:JRBINNS:BDT

APPROVED BY ARA:HWSHLAUDEMAN

S/S:RELTZ

EUR/SOB:RICHARD MILES

----- 112890

R 312111Z MAY 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

S E C R E T STATE 110568

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 110568 ACTION LA PAZ 25 MAY 1974. QUOTE:

S E C R E T STATE 110568

STADIS/////////XX

EXDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: MASS, BL

SUBJECT:GOB INTEREST IN PURCHASING TANKS

REF: A) STATE 072376 B) LA PAZ 3196 C) LA PAZ 3303

1. AS EMBASSY AWARE, M-41 LIGHT TANKS WHICH WOULD BE MORE APPROPRIATE FOR BOLIVIA, ARE NOT AVAILABLE FROM US SOURCES (REFTEL A). SIMILARLY, M-551 ARMORED AIRBORNE RECON-NAISSANCE VEHICLE, WHICH CARRIES 152MM GUN AND SHILLELAGH MISSILE, IS UNAVAILABLE AT THIS TIME AND MIGHT NOT BE AUTHORIZED FOR BOLIVIA, IF AVAILABLE. ALSO, M-551 IS REPORTED TO BE DIFFICULT AND COSTLY TO MAINTAIN. ACCORDINGLY, YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO OFFER THE M-48 TO GOB,

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POINTING OUT POTENTIAL WEIGHT PROBLEM (REFTEL A) AND NOTING

THAT WHILE THIS ITEM MAY NOT BE MOST APPROPRIATE TANK FOR BOLIVIA, WE ARE PREPARED TO PROVIDE PRICE AND AVAILABILITY INFORMATION.

2. FYI. AS INDICATED ABOVE, WE BELIEVE M-41 LIGHT TANK WOULD BE MOST SUITABLE FOR BOLIVIA, AND ARE LOOKING INTO OTHER POSSIBLE SOURCES OF SUCH VEHICLES. WE WILL ADVISE EMBASSY OF ANY POSSIBILITIES THAT MAY DEVELOP. IN INTERIM, WE WISH TO MAKE CLEAR TO GOB THAT WE ARE PREPARED TO OFFER ALTERNATIVE IF NOT IDEAL SYSTEM IN FORM OF M-48. END FYI. RUSH

UNQUOTE KISSINGER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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